



MCDOT NEWS

News from the Montgomery County Department of Transportation, Division of Highway Services

POTOMAC FALLS NEIGHBORHOOD PAVEMENT PRESERVATION PROJECT

Micro Seal Resurfacing to Begin June 6, 2011

INTRODUCTION

This newsletter is to inform you of the upcoming pavement preservation of the Potomac Falls subdivision and to describe the process. This system preservation project employs long term strategies to preserve and enhance the physical and operating conditions of the roadway system as it exists and will make the system serviceable for many years.

BACKGROUND

The Montgomery County Department of Transportation's (MCDOT) Division of Highway Services (DHS) maintains over 5,085 lane miles of streets using various methods of routine maintenance, pavement restoration and repaving depending on the level of pavement deterioration present. Most notably, crack seals, asphalt patching, micro seal resurfacing (seal coat), and hot mix asphalt overlays are chief among pavement restoration options.

In 2008, MCDOT initiated a new Pavement Management System, in which it concluded an inspection and complete inventory of all County roads, identifying and rating the condition of each.

MCDOT is now developing County-wide maintenance schedules based on both this objective rating system and budgetary parameters.

Initially, MCDOT will address surface distresses (i.e. cracks, spalls) using crack seals and patching, as appropriate preparations for either resurfacing with micro seal, or repaving with hot mix asphalt.

SCOPE OF PROJECT

MCDOT has inspected, rated, and evaluated the roads in the Potomac Falls neighborhood and determined the conditions warrant Residential Road Preservation using micro seal resurfacing (seal coat). Residential Road Preservation using micro seal is

the preferred material to resurface residential streets that have a condition rating of "Good".

PROJECT WORK PLAN

The typical micro seal resurfacing process consists of the following, some of which may have already been completed in your neighborhood:

1. Conduct survey — Identify areas of roadway in need of repair. You may notice paint markings that outline areas for pavement replacement, such as those shown in the picture below.



Typical patching paint markings

2. Full Depth Patching — The MCDOT pavement evaluation has determined that, prior to resurfacing, full depth asphalt patching of the pavement or other repairs may be necessary at selected locations. Full depth patching restores the pavement's structural integrity and capacity to support vehicle loads. This work activity may already have been completed in your neighborhood.



Typical asphalt excavation operation

3. Utility Adjustments - In most cases when resurfacing with micro seal, sewer and storm drain manholes, water valves and gas valves, and other underground utility access

covers do not require adjustment to the finished grade of the material. However, any low utility covers may be raised to the existing level of the road surface.

4. Crack Sealing - An additional step may be necessary to seal large cracks that may not require full depth patching. A flexible filler material is injected into the cracks and sealed with a special tool.

5. Replace lane markings—Lane markings will be replaced within a week or two where they existed prior to paving.

PAVEMENT PRESERVATION WITH MICRO SEAL

The final step in the pavement preservation process is the application of the micro seal material. It is a cold applied liquid material containing a light sand aggregate that preserves pavements deemed to be in good condition. The material is uniformly machine applied (see photo) and allowed to cure for several hours before opening to traffic. Additionally, the Residential Road Preservation treatment enhances the existing pavement, fills cracks and small voids, and extends the life and serviceability of the pavement.



Micro seal application.

The micro seal material will cover the entire road surface. This will provide for a uniform appearance and surface texture. A final sweeping, if needed, will remove any loose grit.

Although some cracks may reappear after about a year, the underly-

ing crack seals prevent water from penetrating through the roadway.

SCHEDULE

Resurfacing is scheduled to begin on or about June 6, 2011 and will take up to 1 week to complete. Weather and operational requirements may affect the schedule.

All work will be scheduled between the hours of 7 am and 7 pm.

IMPACTS

Continuous traffic will be maintained at all times, although alternating one-way traffic patterns may be used periodically. However, minor traffic delays may be experienced as flaggers manually direct traffic safely through the construction zone. This project will necessitate temporary lane closures. Access to homes will be available at all times, however minor delays may be experienced as workers restrict traffic from freshly applied micro seal. Traffic may be restricted from driving on freshly applied micro seal until it is fully cured, usually for 3-4 hours. Driving on the freshly applied micro seal will damage the material and may soil your vehicle and track onto your driveway. Orange traffic cones will be placed in the restricted lane.

Street repair, preparation and resurfacing work is generally characterized by some noise and dust. However, MCDOT will do its best to keep the site in good housekeeping order.

Thank you for your cooperation and patience as we work to improve the Potomac Falls subdivision for residents and users.



MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DIVISION OF HIGHWAY SERVICES

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KEEPING MONTGOMERY MOVING

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NOTICE OF THE POTOMAC FALLS PAVEMENT PRESERVATION PROJECT

SAFETY NOTICE

Please remember that while repair work is proceeding, construction vehicles will be moving around. Some materials may be stored in the area. Please use caution when walking or driving through the construction zone. Children may be attracted to the noise and machinery, so please keep them under supervision at all times, even after the work is completed for the day. Also, please follow the direction of flagger's and temporary signs and traffic control devices. We appreciate your patience and cooperation while we make these much needed improvements to the infrastructure.

CONTACTS

The resurfacing and repair work is managed by DHS personnel. Should you wish to contact us concerning the resurfacing and repair work in your community, please contact:

Project Manager: Martin P. Wurdeman 240-777-7649

Program Manager: Donald Noble 240-777-7601

Should your questions be of a more general nature, please contact Customer Service at 240-777-6000.

DHS Email: mcdot.highway@montgomerycountymd.gov

DHS Website:

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/hwytmpl.asp?url=/content/dot/highway/index.asp>

Click on the **Highway** picture.

On the map, click on the **Bethesda Service Area**, where information is available describing the pavement preservation process.

